

Week 2 LOVE

Scriptures:

- Luke 7:36-50
- John 13:1-17; 34-35
- 1 Corinthians 13-14:1
- 1 John 4:7-21
- Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon Discussion Questions:

- In what ways is abiding in Jesus and a passionate love for Jesus so vital if we are to have healthy, loving relationship with others?
- What prevents you from abiding with Jesus?
- How are you challenged by Jesus' words, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."
- What might it look like to love as Jesus has loved us?
- Is it more difficult for you to love and serve some people than others? Why?
- What examples can you give from your own cultural context or history that illustrate the power of love to prove the truth of the gospel, for example, in the reconciling of enemies?
- What opportunities do you have to give of yourself to others, even at considerable cost?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- In what ways do you express love to Jesus?
- Think of someone you find hard to love. What is in yourself (rather than in the other person) which makes it difficult to love that person?
- For whom do you find it easiest to make a sacrifice, for whom do you find it most difficult? Why?
- How might I be watering down Jesus' command to love one another? What justifications or excuses come to mind?
- Where or with whom do you need to practice patient love? kind love? enduring love? believing the best love? hopeful love?
- What hinders you from loving? What are the obstacles that limit your love? Perhaps, preoccupation with personal concerns keeps you from caring about others. Or may you have been hurt and are unwilling to take risks in relationships.

Cultivate:

- Begin each day praying, "Lord Jesus, today bring into my path someone whom I can love." Listen and watch for specific actionable opportunities to love another person, such as a common courtesy thank you note, a letter or email of appreciation, a phone call of affirmation, an invitation to your home, a listening ear, or helping hand.
- Memorize 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Choose one way to live out these verses of love this week. Practice a patient love, a kind love, a persevering love, a believing-the-best love, or a hopeful love.
- Pray daily for Christ's servant heart of love to be formed in you. Not that you would just do acts of service, but that you would receive and allow a servant's heart to be formed in you that you might be a servant.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=We0MiholfbM&t=2s>